



**March 2005**

### State of Florida Obtains Critical Buffer for Protection of 1850's Coastal Fortification

Surplus Navy parcel becomes addition to National Historic Landmark Ft. Zachary Taylor



Photo courtesy Bill Huie.

Key West, FL (January 31, 2005) - The National Park Service Federal Lands to Parks (FLP) program transferred, at no cost, 1.58 acres of abandoned former submarine harbor land to the State of Florida for public park and recreation use. Valued at over \$3,057,300, acquisition of this property will help the Florida Department of Recreation and Parks provide a buffer to their Fort Zachary Taylor State Historic Site.

The State of Florida has now acquired over 51 acres from the Naval Air Station Key West thanks to the Federal Lands to Parks (FLP) Program. In 1976, FLP conveyed a 38-acre parcel which included Fort Taylor. FLP conveyed an adjacent 13.32 acres to provide beach access to the Atlantic Ocean in 1979. This new parcel will facilitate improved access into the park and provide an open space buffer to protect the historic integrity of the fort.

The transfer was negotiated by NPS Federal Lands to Parks staff. For more information, please contact: Bill Huie, Federal Lands to Parks Program Manager, Atlanta, GA, at bill\_huie@nps.gov or 404-562-3175.

### Groundwork USA Initiative: Delivering Results

Changing places, Changing lives.

Across the USA (2004) - The National Park Service, in an innovative partnership with EPA and local government, is engaging citizens in transforming their communities through the establishment of locally-based, nonprofit environmental businesses called Groundwork Trusts. In 2004, Groundwork Trusts in Bridgeport, CT; Concord, NH; Denver, CO; Elizabeth, NJ; Lawrence, MA; Minneapolis, MN; Providence, RI; Somerville, MA; and Yonkers, NY accomplished the following:



Photo courtesy Doug Evans.

- Completed 93 community projects to improve parks, derelict lots, streetscapes, natural areas, business districts, and vacant spaces.
- Leveraged \$2,641,815 of funding and donated goods and services to support community led projects.
- Engaged 10,354 youth, adults, and seniors in 21,596 hours of volunteer service.
- Planted 1,015 trees, 708 shrubs, and 7,375 flowers to beautify public spaces.
- Improved 14.12 acres of brownfields/derelict land and 11.98 acres of urban open space and parkland.

- Established or maintained 3.56 miles of urban trails and walking paths.
- Maintained 127 sites and cleaned up another 268 sites, including parks, river corridors, vacant lots, and streetscapes.
- Provided 1,430 student weeks of environmental education.
- Provided 276 trainee weeks of environmental job training.



Photo courtesy Doug Evans.

Each Trust involves residents, businesses, government, and diverse nonprofit organizations in creative new alliances to improve the local environment, economy, and quality of life. Projects emphasize a practical, hands-on approach and build on local assets: developing and enhancing park and recreation facilities, reclaiming derelict land, restoring rivers and lakesides, creating walking and bicycling trails, and encouraging volunteer stewardship, environmental education, and job training. For more information, please visit [www.groundworkusa.net](http://www.groundworkusa.net) or contact Douglas Evans, Project Manager, at [douglas\\_evans@nps.gov](mailto:douglas_evans@nps.gov) or (617) 223-5124.

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Conservation Successes informs Department of Interior staff, conservation partners, and friends about the program successes of the National Center for Recreation and Conservation. For more details, please contact the staff person involved with each project.

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